



## TECHNOLOGIES ARE US: Feminist Perspectives on Posthuman Futures

Intensive 3-day PhD course, 23-25 Sept 2020 - Bergen

# Technologies are Us: Feminist Perspectives on Posthuman Futures

**How to apply:** Please register by using this form:

[Registration Technologies are Us: Feminist Perspectives on Posthuman Futures](#)

**Recommended credits:** 3 ECTS for attending and actively participating in the course; 5/7.5 (depending on relevant university) for also producing a final 10-page paper (details below).

### Course structure outline

	23 Sept	24 Sept	25 Sept
10.00-11.15 <b>LECTURES, WITH Q&amp;A</b>	<b>Jill Walker Rettberg</b> 'The Biased Face of Technology: Algorithmic Inequality and Algorithmic Persuasion'	<b>N. Katherine Hayles</b> 'Ethics and the Posthuman: A Feminist Perspective'	<b>Kari Jegerstedt</b> 'Bodies and Brains: Sex and Subjectivity in the Age of Neuro-Technologies'

<b>11.15-11.45</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>Break</b>
11.45-12.45 <b>SEMINAR</b>	Discussion/seminar on related reading + lecture (Hilde Corneliussen, Kari Jegerstedt, Gabriele Griffin)	Discussion/seminar on related reading + lecture (Hilde Corneliussen, Kari Jegerstedt, Gabriele Griffin)	Discussion/seminar on related reading + lecture (Hilde Corneliussen, Kari Jegerstedt, Gabriele Griffin)
<b>13.00-14.00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
14.00-16.00 <b>PRESENTATIONS</b>	PhD student presentations + discussion (Hilde Corneliussen, Kari Jegerstedt, Gabriele Griffin)	PhD student presentations + discussion (Hilde Corneliussen, Kari Jegerstedt, Gabriele Griffin)	PhD student presentations + discussion (Hilde Corneliussen, Kari Jegerstedt, Gabriele Griffin)
<b>19.00</b>	<b>Dinner (tbc)</b>	<b>Dinner (tbc)</b>	

**Preparation:**

- 1) In preparation for the course, *and as part of your application*, we would like you to write a 2-page text on why this course is important to you.
- 2) For each discussion/seminar session you will find some key texts to read in advance of the session (details below).

**Tasks:**

To get 5/7.5 credits (depending on your institution), participants must prepare a 10-page text, drawing on the reading they have done for this course and associated texts. The paper should address the following issue: *How does the notion ‘Technologies are Us’ figure in your work, either methodologically or content-wise?*

**Core reading:****Session 1 ‘The Biased Face of Technology’ (Jill Rettberg)**

Buolamwini, Joy. AI, Ain’t I a Woman? 2018. YouTube Video. 3:33 min.

Chapter 1 in Hayles, N. Katherine. “Nonconscious Cognitions: Humans and Others”.

Unthought: The Power of the Cognitive Nonconscious. Chicago ; London: University of Chicago Press, 2017.

Chapter 1 in Zuboff, Shoshana. *The Age of Surveillance Capitalism: The Fight for a Human Future at the New Frontier of Power*. London: Profile Books, 2019.

Haraway, Donna. ‘Situated Knowledges: The Science Question in Feminism and the Privilege of Partial Perspective’. *Feminist Studies* 14, no. 3 (1988): 575–99.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QxuyfWoVV98>

Parvin, Nassim. 'Look Up and Smile! Seeing through Alexa's Algorithmic Gaze | Catalyst: Feminism, Theory, Technoscience' 5, no. 1 (28 March 2019).

<https://doi.org/10.28968/cftt.v5i1.29592>.

Rettberg, Jill Walker. 'Biometric Citizens: Adapting Our Selfies to Machine Vision'. In *Selfie Citizenship*, edited by Adi Kuntsman. Basingbroke: Palgrave, 2017.

Rettberg, Jill Walker. 'Quantified Selves'. In *Seeing Ourselves Through Technology: How We Use Selfies, Blogs and Wearable Devices to See and Shape Ourselves*, 61–78. London: Palgrave Macmillan UK, 2014. [https://doi.org/10.1057/9781137476661\\_5](https://doi.org/10.1057/9781137476661_5).

Roth, Lorna. 'Looking at Shirley, the Ultimate Norm: Colour Balance, Image Technologies, and Cognitive Equity'. *Canadian Journal of Communication* 34, no. 1 (28 March 2009).

<http://www.cjc-online.ca/index.php/journal/article/view/2196>.

Winner, Langdon. 'Do Artifacts Have Politics?' *Daedalus* 109, no. 1, (1980): 121–36.

## Session 2 'Ethics and the Posthuman' (N. Katherine Hayles)

Hayles, N. Katherine (2016) "'Cognitive Assemblages: Technical Agency and Human Interactions,'" *Critical Inquiry* 43.1 (Autumn 2016): 32-55'

Hayles, N. Katherine (2012) 'Tech-TOC', Ch. 4 in *How We Think: Digital Media and Contemporary Technogenesis*. Pp. 85-121. Chicago: Chicago UP.

Hayles, N. Katherine, with Birgit Van Paymbroek (2015), 'Enwebbed Complexities: The Posthumanities, Digital Media, and New Feminist Materialism. An Interview with N. Katherine Hayles,' *Journal of Diversity and Gender Studies* 2.1-2 (2015): 21-29.

Hayles, N. Katherine (2014) 'Cognition Everywhere: The Rise of the Cognitive Nonconscious and the Costs of Consciousness,' *New Literary History* 45.2 (Spring 2014): 199-220.

## Session 3 'Bodies and Brains' (Kari Jegerstedt)

Atanasoski, Neda og Kalindi Vora: "Epilogue: On Technoliberal Desire, Or Why There is No Such Thing as a Feminist AI," *Surrogate Humanity. Race, Robots, and the Politics of Technological Futures*. Durham and London: Duke UP, 2019, pp. 188–196

cárdenas, micha: "Reproductive Futures in Trans of Color Feminism," *Transgender Studies Quarterly* (3)1-2, 2016, pp. 48–57

Malabou, Catherine: "Artificial Intelligence: The Fourth Blow to Our Narcissism", *Morphing Intelligence. From IQ Measurement to Artificial Brains*. Trans. Carolyn Shread. New York: Columbia UP, 2019, pp. 145–164

Krauss, Cynthia: "What is the Feminist Critique of Neuroscience? A Call for Dissensus Studies", *Neuroscience and Critique. Exploring the Limits of the Neurological Turn*. Eds Jan de Vos and Ed Pluth. London and New York: Routledge, 2016, pp 100–116

Parisi, Luciana: "The Alien Subject of AI," *Subjectivity* (12)1:2019, pp. 27–48

Preciado, Paul B.: "Technogender" and "The Micropolitics of Gender in the Pharmacopornographic Era: Experimentation, Voluntary Intoxication, Mutation", *Testo Junkie. Sex, Drugs, and Biopolitics in the Pharmacopornographic Era*. New York: Feminist Press, 2013, pp. 99–129 and pp. 333–398

### Further reading:

- Blackman, Lisa (2019) *Haunted Data*. London: Bloomsbury Academic.
- Ess, C. (2015). *New Selves, New Research Ethics*. *Internet Research Ethics*, 48-76.
- Eubanks, Virginia (2017) *Automating Inequality: How High-Tech Tools Profile, Police, and Punish the Poor*. St. Martin's Press.
- Grasswick, H. E. (Ed.). (2011). *Feminist Epistemology and Philosophy of Science: Power in Knowledge*. New York: Springer Science & Business Media.
- Griffin, Gabriele and Malin Jordal, eds. (2019) *Body, Migration, Re/Constructive Surgeries: Making the Gendered Body in a Globalized World*. London: Routledge.
- Hayles, N. Katherine (2017) *Unthought: The Power of the Cognitive Nonconscious*. Chicago: Chicago UP.
- Huws, Ursula (2014) *Labor in the Global Digital Economy: The Cybertariat Comes Off Age*. New York: Monthly Review Press.
- Malabou, Catherine (2012) *Ontology of the Accident: An Essay on Destructive Plasticity*. Cambridge: Polity Press.
- Malabou, Catherine (2012) *The New Wounded: From Neurosis to Brain Damage*. New York: Fordham University Press.
- O'Neil, Cathy (2016) *Weapons of Math Destruction: How Big Data Increases Inequality and Threatens Democracy*. Crown/Archetype.
- Rettberg, Jill Walker (2014) *Seeing Ourselves Through Technology: How We Use Selfies, Blogs and Wearable Devices to See and Shape Ourselves*. Basingstoke: Palgrave.
- Riley, D. (2013). *Hidden in plain view: Feminists doing engineering ethics, engineers doing feminist ethics*. *Science and Engineering Ethics*, 19(1), 189-206.
- Robertson, Jennifer (2018) *Robo Sapiens Japanicus: Robots, Gender, Family and the Japanese Nation*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- Shaw, Adrienne (2015) *Gaming at the Edge: Sexuality and Gender at the Margins of Gamer Culture*. Univ of Minnesota Press, 2015.
- Shilton, K. (2018) *Values and ethics in human-computer interaction*. *Foundations and Trends® Human-Computer Interaction*, 12(2), 107-171.
- Tenen, Dennis (2017) *Plain Text: The Poetics of Computation*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.
- Wachter-Boettcher, Sara (2017) *Technically Wrong: Sexist Apps, Biased Algorithms, and Other Threats of Toxic Tech*. WW Norton & Company.
- Zuboff, Shoshana (2019) *The Age of Surveillance Capitalism: The Fight for a Human Future at the New Frontier of Power*. London: Profile Books.

### Practical information

#### 1) How to register for this course:

Please register by using this form:

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**Accommodation suggestions (participants are responsible for organizing their own accommodation):**

- [Scandic Byparken](#)
- [Scandic Bergen City](#)
- [Scandic Ørnen](#)
- [Thon Hotel Bristol](#)

**Low budget:**

- [P-Hotels Bergen](#)
- [City Box](#)

## **2) Location of course in Bergen:**

Details to follow.

**In case of queries:**

If you have any queries regarding the course, please contact one of the co-organizers:

Kari Jegerstedt: Kari.Jegerstedt@uib.no

Hilde Corneliussen: hgc@vestforsk.no

Gabriele Griffin: gabriele.griffin@gender.uu.se